

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIARural Production, 1954-55.

This Bulletin repeats, with some minor corrections, the principal statistics relating to livestock and cereals recently published in Bulletins 9 and 12 and gives data concerning other crops, exports, manures used, implements, employment, etc., some items being provisional. Particulars of varieties of wheat, barley and oats were published in Bulletin 13.

In the various tables in this bulletin, production results of the year 1954-55 are compared with the same results of the previous 2 years and of the pre-war year 1938/39. In the text, figures for 1953-54 are shown in parentheses.

I. AREAS UNDER CROP

Particulars	1938-39	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Wheat for Grain	3,080,401	1,543,762	1,528,377	1,689,103
Barley for Grain	457,039	937,521	1,121,744	1,019,673
Oats for Grain	266,842	369,350	280,244	339,640
Rye for Grain	5,273	57,041	52,520	37,891
Peas - Field	16,570	24,525	26,093	35,280
Lucerne, Clover, etc. Seed	2,342	33,665	29,061	45,340
Flax	4	1,618	3,040	1,265
Linseed	-	3,961	70	171
Hay	519,309	213,852	262,006	256,525
Green Fodder	276,021	287,332	367,934	363,355
Vines Wine (b)	36,457	43,898	42,750	41,518
Drying, Table (b)	21,563	16,705	19,371	19,094
Orchards	28,943	28,649	29,758	30,507
Vegetables - Potatoes	4,290	9,231	7,023	6,037
Other Domestic	5,446	9,080	8,036	9,542
Nurseries	177	174	118	101
Chicory	31	37	22	51
Canary Seed	3,076	17	-	-
Other (a)	306	89	90	94
TOTAL CROPS	4,724,090	3,580,507	3,778,257	3,895,187

(a) Includes Vegetable Seeds, Herbs, Sunflower, Safflower, Tic Beans, etc.

(b) According to purpose for which grapes used during year.

Vegetables for 1954-55 (1953-54) include Green Peas 4,337 (3,327), Turnips and Swedes 277 (295), Carrots 270 (270), Onions 512 (471), Pumpkins, Triambles etc. 683 (483), Tomatoes 790 (641), Cabbages 374 (341), Cauliflowers 477 (493), French Beans 359 (333), Beetroot 119 (135), Lettuce 331 (291), Celery 348 (418), Cucumbers 69 (71), Rhubarb 73 (100) acres.

NUMBERS OF HOLDINGS ON WHICH CROPS GROWN. Cereal Crops of 20 acres or more were counted and there were 8,892 Wheat; 7,212 barley and 4,456 oats. Crops of 1 acre and over were:- 1,266 orchards of citrus fruits; 3,119 orchards of other fruit trees; 3,062 vineyards; 850 crops of potatoes and 195 of onions.

II. LAND UTILIZATION

In addition to the area under crop of 3,895,187 (3,778,257) acres, there were 1,233,159 (1,183,084) acres under fallow, 333,898 (256,003) of lucerne for grazing and 2,628,697 (2,181,818) of clover and grasses other than native grasses.

III. YIELDS OF CROPS

Particulars		1938-39	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Wheat	Bush.	31,674,418	33,918,689	30,409,231	31,462,737
Barley	"	7,541,090	25,901,684	28,491,293	18,376,283
Oats	"	2,401,128	6,666,420	4,320,758	4,508,117
Rye	"	18,469	408,646	324,907	178,650
Peas - Field	"	96,329	444,010	423,666	419,194
Hay	Tons	585,554	317,462	369,296	329,618
Seeds (Clover etc.)	Cwt.	2,967	32,442	30,571	43,427
Potatoes	Tons	18,487	43,880	45,044	38,362
Onions	"	3,892	5,500	4,975	4,790
Tomatoes	Bush	226,691	371,866	339,299	355,282
Green Peas					
In Pod	"	97,918	207,600	288,623	382,760
Canning (Shelled)	lbs.	-	345,299	84,356	17,916
Carrots	Tons	1,117	2,506	3,006	3,806
Currants	Cwt.	191,381	145,120	126,526	87,699
Sultanas	"	192,926	281,780	211,525	202,968
Raisins	"	40,212	87,940	117,505	79,505
Grapes for Wine	Tons	65,634	124,392	121,994	104,652
Wine	Gall.	10,459,324	22,733,369	23,497,406	19,208,188
Apples	Bush.	808,020	588,621	1,380,053	621,941
Apricots	"	343,569	531,268	700,058	598,848
Peaches	"	149,602	223,455	317,686	344,114
Pears	"	195,995	216,131	338,797	214,488
Plums, Prunes	"	134,030	94,564	155,123	96,417
Oranges	"	815,460	998,401	1,398,315	1,407,798
Lemons	"	55,862	46,299	58,995	50,329
Almonds	Cwt.	9,994	15,355	14,532	17,176

YIELDS PER ACRE

Wheat	Bush	10.28	21.97	19.90	18.63
Barley	"	16.50	27.63	25.40	18.02
Oats	"	9.00	18.05	15.42	13.27
Hay	Tons	1.13	1.48	1.41	1.28
April-November Rain	Inch	10.00	15.19	12.62	10.85

Other Vegetable Yields for 1954-55 (1953-54) included -

Parsnips 1,052 (886) tons, Swedes and Turnips 1,708 (1,701) tons; Beetroot 1,264 (1,074) tons; Pumpkins, Triambles etc. 3,749 (2,705) tons; French Beans 62,990 (74,161) bushels; Broad Beans 5,177 (5,780) bushels, Cauliflowers 165,140 (165,807) dozen; Cabbages 170,448 (183,896) dozen, Lettuce 157,269 (191,388) cases, Celery 171, 937 (234,740) crates, Silver Beet 12,265 (14,318) dozen bunches; Rhubarb 289 (439) tons, Cucumbers 48,644 (49,903) half cases.

Other Fruit yields for 1954-55 (1953-54) included Cherries 60,011 (62,503), Figs 15,486 (19,347), Nectarines 30,215 (31,812), Grape Fruit 52,785 (44,629) Quinces 11,079 (14,969), Walnuts 644 (680) cwts.

Berry Fruits were:- Raspberries 415 (532), Strawberries 1,073 (890), Other 952 (1,399) cwt.

Oranges were specified as Navel 900,439 (877,756), Valencia 426,429 (448,544), Seville and Poorman 6,519 (6,546), Mandarins 31,227 (30,369), Other Seeded types 43,184 (35,100) bushels.

Plums were 32,372 (61,345) and prunes 64,045 (93,778) bushels.

ENSILAGE made 22,908 (13,755) tons.

RECORD yields have been: Wheat 1931-32 48,093,102 bushels; Barley 1953-54 28,491,293 bushels; Oats 1952-53 6,666,420 bushels; Wine 1951-52 25,494,579 gallons; Currants 1943-44 209,140 cwt.; Sultanas 1943-44 333,300 cwt.; Raisins 1953-54 117,505 cwt; Apples 1940-41 1,750,000 bushels; Oranges 1954 1,407,798 bushels; Pears 1953-54 338,797 bushels; Almonds 1949-50 17,937 cwt.; Apricots 1953-54 700,058 bushels.

IV. OVERSEA EXPORTS (Years ended June)

Products		1938-39	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Barley	Bush.	2,248,212	17,353,862	21,633,696	14,734,138
Wheat	Bush.	18,486,303	12,967,584	12,909,232	13,973,605
Flour	Tons	86,676	135,231	89,659	68,764
Butter	Lb.	7,385,564	1,239,658	1,294,608	2,228,856
Cheese	Lb.	12,907,683	9,822,505	9,183,462	12,379,286
Eggs	£	98,911	1,090,731	1,202,998	795,392
Mutton	Cwt.	1,391	127,696	84,402	28,301
Lamb	Cwt.	196,546	144,418	103,072	228,845
Wool (as greasy)	Lb.	87,272,802	131,924,000	114,255,000	113,350,000
Currants, raisins	Lb.	42,692,777	38,965,590	32,145,234	37,037,293
Tree fruits - fresh, dried etc.	£	275,074	1,110,255	2,798,755	1,348,065
Wine	Gall	3,440,509	998,150	1,272,518	1,123,613

V. MANURE USED

Particulars		1938-39	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Crops manured	Acres	4,281,419	3,139,239	3,336,175	3,470,313
Manure used	Tons	179,118	158,451	171,458	176,847
Cropped area manured	%	90.6	87.7	88.3	89.1
Manure per acre	lbs.	93.7	113.1	115.1	114.2
Pastures manured	Acres	1,095,120	2,321,743	2,826,074	3,142,411
Manure used	Tons	56,325	125,775	153,626	173,503
Manure per acre	Lbs.	115.2	121.3	121.8	123.7

The quantity of manure is that used for producing the crops grown in the seasons stated. In connection with top-dressed pastures, it is noted that 333,898 (256,003) acres of lucerne and 2,628,697 (2,181,818) acres of clover and grasses other than native grasses were grazed during the year, apart from lucerne, clover, etc. harvested for seed or hay.

Particulars of fertilisers used for 1954-55 were:-

	Area Manured	Super- phosphate	Other Fertilisers	Total per acre
	Acres	Tons	Tons	Lbs.
Wheat for Grain	1,639,411	77,641	275	106.5
Other Cereals, Hay	1,727,967	82,277	357	107.1
Vegetables	10,750	2,134	2,935	1056.2
Fruits, Vines	51,529	3,175	5,802	390.2
Other Crops	40,656	2,164	87	124.0
Total Crops	3,470,313	167,391	9,456	114.2
Pastures	3,142,411	172,756	747	123.7
GRAND TOTAL	6,612,724	340,147	10,203	118.7

Of the superphosphate used, 10,175 tons with trace elements were used on crops and 26,122 tons on pastures.

VI. LIVESTOCK ETC.

Particulars		1938-39	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Sheep	No.	9,936,586	12,036,514	11,838,244	12,817,135
Cattle -					
Dairy Cows	"	165,110	183,032	192,250	199,275
Other	"	153,787	299,546	298,695	324,542
Horses	"	195,834	57,354	51,807	48,943
Pigs	"	71,292	58,657	60,619	84,502
Ewes Mated	"	4,202,848	4,988,882	4,965,748	5,242,173
Lambs Marked	"	3,077,634	3,806,509	3,446,607	4,014,794
Wool Production	Lbs.	105,266,000	158,658,000	145,509,000	154,000,000
Butter Made	"	20,716,584	17,880,959	17,610,137	19,500,000
Cheese Made	"	18,457,598	23,416,410	26,009,705	29,300,000
Milk Production	"	72,500,000	84,250,000	85,000,000	91,500,000
Bacon and Ham	"	5,987,363	6,870,203	6,540,142	7,200,000
Slaughterings		1938a	1952 a	1954 b	1955b
Sheep, Lambs	No.	1,588,507	2,352,765	2,637,242	2,798,927
Cattle, Calves	"	167,451	186,685	219,853	232,892
Pigs	"	150,369	113,734	104,302	136,281

a. For year ended 31st December. b. For year ending 30th June.

VII. MACHINERY, IMPLEMENTS

		1938-39	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Tractors	No.	5,969	19,750	20,742	23,253
Engines (stationery)	"	16,841	27,686	27,695	29,609
Rotary Hoes	"	531 b	1,856	2,230	2,734
Potato Diggers	"	N.A.	525	561	590
Hay Pressers and Balers	"	275 a	1,535	1,873	2,110
Spraying Plants (power driven)	"	N.A.	2,558	3,082	3,674
Electric Motors ($\frac{1}{2}$ H.P. & over)	"	N.A.	6,899	7,635	8,946
Milking Machines		684	5,418	5,876	6,363
Shearing Machines		2,976 a	9,733	10,302	11,452
Fertiliser Distributors	"	N.A.	5,090	5,423	6,554
Windmills (for water only)	"	N.A.	28,438	29,246	31,592
Mowers	"	N.A.	5,864	6,660	7,456

a. 1942-43 b. 1943-44.

It is noted that there are continuing increases in all the above types of machinery but the decrease in crop areas was reflected in decreases in drills, ploughs, binders, headers, etc. when last collected in 1949-50.

Details for 1954-55 were as follows:-

Tractors. Crawler or track type 3,403. Wheeled type 19,850, Hay Presses and balers were:- Stationary 941, Pick-up 1,169, Milking Machines. Unit size 1, 1,179; 2, - 3,182; 3 - 1,158; 4 - 592; 5 - 109. 6 - 120; Other 23. Total Units 14,833. Shearing Machines as per number of stands 1, - 4,279; 2 - 5,736; 3, - 979; 4, - 267; 5, - 79; 6, - 169; Other - 43, Total Stands 20,946.

VII. PERSONS ENGAGED PERMANENTLY

Particulars		1938-39	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
Males	No.	41,421	38,264	37,817	39,630
Females	No.	2,942	4,955	5,565	6,550
Persons	No.	44,363	43,219	43,382	46,180

Of the persons engaged in 1955, Occupiers, Lessees etc. were Male 27,855, Female 4,248; Unpaid relatives Male 3,029, Female 1,361 and Paid Employees Male 8,746, Female 941.

Wages and Salaries (including Value of Keep) 1954-55 (1953-54). To Permanent Workers, Males £4,958,510 (£5,017,617), Females £244,191 (£233,878). To Temporary Workers, Males £4,204,215 (£3,590,924); Females £261,371 (£213,295).

IX. BEEKEEPING

Allowing for varying good and bad seasons (usually alternating) it can be said that the production of honey and beeswax in recent years has been considerably greater than 10 years previously. During 1948-49 there was the record production of 10,906,372 lbs. of honey and of 140,384 lbs. of beeswax. For 1954-55 (1953-54) there were 3,671,249 (6,377,785) lbs. of honey and 59,708 (78,455) lbs. of beeswax. There were 1,018 (1,178) beekeepers with 58,296 (74,456) productive and 21,004 (17,754) unproductive hives.

A.W. BOWDEN,

GOVERNMENT STATIST.

Statistical Office,

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2nd November, 1955.